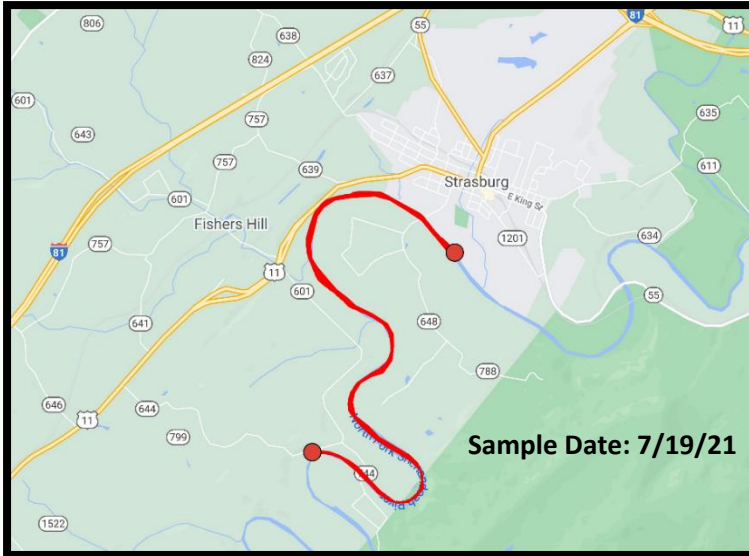


# North Fork Shenandoah River - Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB) Report

**Issued: Friday 7/23/2021**

**Next Issue: on or about Monday 8/2/2021**



- Harmful algae (cyanobacteria) mats detected.
- River area under HAB swimming advisory.

## HELPFUL TIP:

Visit [www.SwimHealthyVa.com](http://www.SwimHealthyVa.com) and click on the Harmful Algae Bloom Map to review sample results near you!

Expand the map using the symbol in the upper right hand map title bar, then click on the magnifying glass. You can search my location name or address!

Out of an abundance of caution, an advisory has been issued for the North Fork Shenandoah River due to the detection of cyanobacteria toxins within mat material at two sites; Bethel Road (near the intersection of Rt. 644) and at Strasburg, near S Holliday Street (Rt. 648). While the cyanobacteria mats at those two discreet locations are wide-spread, they were not observed throughout the entire ~5 mile stretch of this river segment. Weather and other environmental factors can cause rapid changes in water quality and cause mat material to shift in location. People and pets should avoid contact and accidental ingestion of cyanobacteria mats throughout the river. The drinking water plant at Strasburg is working with state and county officials to ensure the continued safety of drinking water and will continue to monitor for algal toxins at the plant intake.

## When in Doubt, Stay Out!

**Avoid swimming, fishing or letting your children or pets play in bodies of water that:**

- Smells bad
- Looks discolored
- Contains scum or algal mats on the surface or bottom of the waterbody

## BE AWARE of Harmful Algae Blooms

Water quality is tested to determine if health risks may be present.

During an algae bloom, water may have surface scum, mats, or films with red, green, white streaks, or glops.



For more information or to report an algae bloom visit [www.SwimHealthyVA.com](http://www.SwimHealthyVA.com)

To report a HAB-related illness contact the HAB Hotline at 888-238-6154.

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*To protect the health and promote the well-being of all people in Virginia.*